

NOTES ON THE BUTTERFLIES ALONG THE KWAI NOI BETWEEN SAI YOK AND WANG PO

by

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SUMMARY

An effort has been made to sample the butterflies found along the banks of the Kwae Noi, from the Sai Yok Falls to the boat landing at Wang Po, between April 1, 1962 and April 8, 1966. This study has resulted in the collection of 44 species belonging to 21 genera of the families *Papilionidae*, *Pieridae*, *Danaiidae*, *Nymphalidae*, *Libytheidae*, and *Lycaenidae*.

The annotated list of species includes the areas along the river where each particular species was taken. It also should be noted that all specimens were collected during the early part of April.

Introduction

The purpose of this paper has been to give some idea of the variety of butterflies that can be seen and collected during the early months of the hot season along the shores of the Kwae Noi.

This study is based on three collecting trips, each covering a span of five days. All five of the areas mentioned in this article were sampled at least once on each of the three trips, which were specifically 1-6 April 1962, 6-10 April 1963 and 4-8 April 1966. Hence the sampling merely represents the hot season occurrences.

Collecting Areas

Almost anywhere in Thailand during the hot season, vegetation seems pretty sparse. The general areas surrounding the Kwae Noi are no exception, except in places where it is wet. Hence, any easily accessible, moist spot along the river, potentially offers fair collecting.

Area A: *Sai Yok Falls*—Most of the collecting done at this site centered around the immediate area of the falls. Here the undergrowth is lush—plenty of tall grasses, rushes, some reeds, many kinds of ferns, and other forms of herbaceous plants, mixed with some bamboo and a few wild bananas. The area surrounding the falls is clothed by a fairly thick canopy of mixed deciduous trees.

- Area B: *Had Ngiue*—This general area is characterized by fairly steep banks, backed by large limestone outcroppings and covered with a mixed stand of large deciduous trees and some lianas. The undergrowth is generally sparse. Although collecting spots in this area are few and far between—generally on several scattered sand bars—the number and variety of specimens is as large, if not larger, than any of the other collecting areas mentioned in this paper.
- Area C: *Tong-Ghang*—All of the collecting done at this location, centered around the rafts and the few refreshment establishments which cater to tourists embarking for the caves, located about two miles away. The immediate area is characterized by steep, overhanging cliffs on the opposite side of the river, and a rather large sand bar on the landing side. Many water buffalo come here to drink, and at certain times of the day, butterflies congregate in clouds, making it possible for one to take a large number of different species at just about any one spot. Vegetation is quite sparse, there being green grass and a few mixed herbaceous plants only along the edges of the water. There are not so many deciduous trees here—and one finds the beginnings of the river plateaus where kapok and cotton is raised—a condition which seems typical along much of the middle and lower reaches of the Kwai Noi.
- Area D: *Nam Tok*—Most of the area is fairly flat here, with some low hills in the background. Specimens collected at this site, were taken on moist sand and mud at spots frequented by water buffalo, dogs, and other animals of a small but typical landing area and refreshment spot. There is much grass and a large variety of herbaceous plants, covered by a scattering of mixed deciduous trees.
- Area E: *Wang-Po*—This general area is marked by extremely steep cliffs rising in the background on one side of the river, in contrast to the river plateaus on the other side—where extensive stands of kapok, plantings of cotton, and groves of bananas, coconuts, and limes can be found. Because the river banks here are either steep or covered by dense masses of willow, growing right into the water, regular collecting sites are few. By far, the best hunting is found among the cultivated gardens of the town itself and along the upper river banks.

Methods of Collecting and Classification

Most of the species collected were settled on moist sand at places along the sides of the river where animals had come to drink, although some were collected on the wing and on several kinds of plants.

All of the species in this study have been classified according to the nomenclature as set down by CORBET and PENDLEBURY (1956). Also of help in identification were Hong Kong Butterflies (1960), Butterflies of the Indian Region (1957), and Butterflies of Formosa in Colour (1960).

Of the material discussed in this paper only three specimens could not be classified to genus and species according to Corbet and Pendlebury. These included *Graphium nomius swinhoi* Moore and *Curetis dentata* Moore, which were classified according to WYNTER-BLYTH (1957); and *Libythea geoffroyi* Godart, which was found in the Godfrey Collection at Kasetsart University.

Annotated List of Species

Each entry in this listing includes the areas along the Kwaie Noi where that species was taken. The years in which the various species were taken are also indicated.

Numbers refer to species mentioned in the Khao Yai papers, Part I and II. However, those numbers with a hyphen denote species which have not as yet been listed in Parts I and II of the Khao Yai papers.

Family PAPILIONIDAE

2. *Atrophaneura aristolochiae asteris* (ROTHSCHILD) (Common Rose)
(A-B-D-E); (1962-1963-1966).
- 2a. *Chilasa clytia clytia* form *onpape* MOORE (Common Mime)
(C-D-E); (1966).
- 2a-1. *Chilasa clytia clytia* form *dissimilis* (L.) (Common Mime)
(B-D-E); (1963-1966).
- 3a. *Chilasa mahadeva selangoranus* (FRUHSTORFER) (Unknown)
(B-C); (1966).
4. *Papilio demoleus malayanus* WALLACE (Lime)
(D); (1962-1963-1966).
7. *Papilio polytes romulus* CRAMER (Common Mormon)
(C-D-E), (1962-1963-1966).
8. *Papilio memnon agenor* L. (male) (Great Mormon)
(C); (1966).

- 12-1. *Graphium nomius swinhoei* MOORE (Spot Swordtail)
(B-C-D); (1963-1966).
13. *Graphium aristeus hermocrates* (C. & R. FELDER) (Chain Swordtail)
(B-C-D); (1962-1963-1966).
14. *Graphium sarpedon luctatius* (FRUHSTORFER) (Common Bluebottle)
(C-D); (1962-1963-1966).
15. *Graphium doson evemonides* (HONRATH) (Common Jay)
(B-C-D-E); (1962-1963-1966).
16. *Graphium agamemnon agamemnon* (L.) (Tailed Jay)
(E); (1963-1966).
- 16-1. *Graphium ramaceus pendleburyi* (CORBET) (Pendlebury's Zebra)
(C); (1966).
17. *Graphium macareus perakensis* (FRUHSTORFER) (Lesser Zebra)
(C-D); (1963-1966).
- 17-1. *Graphium megarus megapenthes* (FRUHSTORFER) (Spotted Zebra)
(A-B-C-D); (1963-1966).

Family PIERIDAE

19. *Leptosia nina malayana* FRUHSTORFER (Psyche)
(A); (1966).
- 21a-1. *Cepora nerissa dapha* (MOORE) (Common Gull)
(B-D); (1963-1966).
- 21a-2. *Cepora iudith malaya* FRUHSTORFER (Orange Gull)
(C-D); (1963-1966)
22. *Appias lyncida vasava* FRUHSTORFER (Chocolate Albatross)
(C-E); (1962-1963-1966)
23. *Appias libythea olferna* SWINHOE (Striped Albatross)
(B-C-E); (1962-1963-1966).
- 24c. *Appias paulina distanti* (MOORE) (Ceylon Lesser Albatross)
(C); (1966).
- 24c-1. *Ixias pyrene birdi* DISTANT (Yellow Orange Tip)
(D); (1966).
27. *Catopsilia pyranthe pyranthe* (LINNAEUS) (Mottled Emigrant)
(B-D); (1962-1963-1966).

28. *Catopsilia pomona pomona* (FABRICIUS) (Lemon Emigrant)
(A-B-C-D-E); (1962-1963-1966).
- 28-1. *Catopsilia pomona pomona* form
crocale (CRAMER) (Lemon Emigrant)
(C); (1962-1963-1966).
- 29-1. *Eurema brigitta senna* (C. & R. FELDER) (Swall Grass Yellow)
(B); (1966).

Family DANAIDAE

31. *Danaus genutia intermedia* (MOORE) (Common Tiger)
(B); (1962-1963-1966).
36. *Danaus aglea melanoides* (MOORE) (Glassy Tiger)
(D-E); (1963-1966).
37. *Danaus hamata septentrionis* (BUTLER) (Dark Blue Glassy Tiger)
(A); (1962-1963-1966).
- 37c. *Euploea core wheeleri* (TALBOT) (Unknown)
(B-C-E); (1966).
38. *Euploea core godartii* LUCAS (Violet-tipped Crow)
(A-C-D-E); (1963-1966).
40. *Euploea algea menetriesii* C. & R. FELDER (Unknown)
(C-D-E); (1966).
41. *Euploea mulciber mulciber* (CRAMER) (Striped Blue Crow)
(A); (1963-1966).
42. *Euploea sylvester harrisii* C. & R. FELDER (Double-branded Crow)
(A-C-D-E); (1963-1966).

Family NYMPHALIDAE

56. *Ariadne ariadne ariadne* (L.) (Angled Castor)
(A); (1963-1966).
- 57-1. *Phalanta alcippe alcesta* CORBET (Small Leopard)
(D); (1966).
- 57a. *Phalanta phalantha phalantha* (DRURY) (Common Leopard)
(D); (1963-1966).

62. *Precis atlites atlites* (L.) (Grey Pansy)
(A); (1963-1966).
80. *Moduza procris milonia* (FRUHSTORFER) (Commander)
(A); (1963-1966).
85. *Euthalia lepidea matala* (FRUHSTORFER) (Grey Count)
(C); (1966).
91. *Idrusia nyctelius euploeoides* (C. & R. FELDER) (Courtesan)
(D); (1966).

Family LIBYTHEIDAE

96. *Libythea myrrha kecura* FRUHSTORFER (Club Beak)
(C-D); (1962-1963-1966).
97. *Libythea narina rohini* MARSHALL (White-spotted Beak)
(C-D); (1963-1966).
- 97-1. *Libythea geoffoyi* GODART (Unknown)
(C-E); (1966).

Family LYCAENIDAE

102. *Castalius roxus pothus* FRUHSTORFER (Straight Pierrot)
(A-C-D); (1966).
103. *Castalius rosimon rosimon* (FABRICIUS) (Common Pierrot)
(D); (1963-1966).
- 106c-1. *Curetis dentata* MOORE (Toothed Sunbeam)
(A-D-E); (1966).

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